tional funds made by the Board has been acceded to?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) The Planning Commission allocated a lumpsum outlay of Rs. 682.00 lakhs for small/minor schemes of upto 3 MW capacity under construction against the State Government's demands of Rs. 982.00 lakhs. Nil provision for new schemes.

(b) and (c). No, Sir.

[*English*]

Price of Steel

3066. SHRI R. JEEVARATHINAM:
SHRI MORESHWAR SAVE:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the selling price of steel from October to December, 1991 including the current rate; and

(b) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to check the rise in the prices of steel?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Ex-works prices of SAIL for representative steel items are given in Statement:

(b) The following measures are taken to contain the prices of steel.

- Increased production and cost reduction measures, taken by the integrated steel plants.
- Delicensing of the steel sector to encourage the private entrepreneurs to invest in the steel sector for increasing production.
- Deregulation of prices of iron and steel, which will lead to increased production in the secondary sector. This will also result in enhanced efficiency and competitiveness in the steel sector leading to cost reduction.
- Reduction in import duties on steel melting scrap from 35% to 10%, from 55% to 35% on pig iron and from 65% to 45% on billets and HR coils so as to facilitate imports to supplement domestic availability.

STATEMENT

Ex-works Prices for Representative Steel Items

(SAIL)

(RS. /MT)

Category	*Oct. -Dec.'91*	*W.E.F. 1.3.92*
Bullets : 80-100 MM	5319	5579
Blooms : 150 MM	5199	5459

(RS. /MT)

Category	*Oct. -Dec.'91*	*W.E.F. 1.3.92*
Slabs : 90 MM & Lower	5169	5429
Rounds : 16 MM	6274	6534
Tor Steel : 8 MM	7769	8029
Wire Road : 8 MM	6499	6759
Angles : 65x56x6	6864	7124
Channels: 100x50	7539	7799
Joist : 150x75	7829	8089
PLATES		
(I) Above 5 to 10 MM	9564	9713
(II) Above 10 to 20 MM	10019	10220
H R Sheets : 3.15 MM	9279	9273
H. R. Coil : 3.15 MM	9744	9791
C.R. SHEETS		
(I) 0.63 MM	13376	13176
(II) 1.6 MM	12394	12500
C.R. COIL		
(I) 0.63 MM	12964	13136
(II) 1. 6 MM	12174	12255
G.P. SHEETS		
(I) 0.63 MM	17404	17736
(II) 1.6 MM	13659	13560

(RS. /MT)

	Category	*Oct. -Dec.'91*	*W.E.F. 1.3.92*
	G.C. SHEETS		
(I)	0.63 MM	17459	17797
(II)	1.6 MM	13714	13622

NOTE:

1. *FREGHT CHARGEABLE*: During Oct.-Dec. '91' the Equalised Freight Element was Rs. 956/- per MT for Steel w.e.f. 17.1.92 it is actual Freight or Rs. 956/- which ever is lower.

2. Increase with effect from 1.3.1992 is on account of revision in Excise Duty announced in the Union Budget for 1992-93.

PooyAmkutty Hydro Electric Schemes In Kerala

3067. SHRIMATI SUSEELA GOPALAN: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to reconsider the decision taken on the pooyamkutty Hydro-electric scheme in Kerala; and

(b) if not, the alternative arrangements proposed to be made to meet the acute power shortage in Kerala?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) The Pooyamkutty Hydro-electric Project (2x120 MW) was accorded techno-economic approval by Central Electricity Authority in January 1984 and Environment clearance by Ministry of Environment & Forests in June 1985. The Planning commission sanctioned the project in August 1986 subject to the State Government obtaining forest clearance from Ministry of Environment & Forests. In January 1991 the Ministry of Environment & Forest conveyed their inability to given the necessary forest clearance for the release of 3001.8 ha. of forest land required for the project. Subsequently, in February 1991 the State Government requested the Ministry of Environment & Forests for re-consideration of the decision and after re-consideration the Ministry of Environment & Forests rejected the forest clearance for the project.

(b) To meet the power shortage eleven hydro-electric schemes with a total installation of 335 MW are at present under construction in Kerala. Two hydro-electric schemes viz. Boothathankettu (3x10 MW) and Pallivasal Rehabilitation (3X20 MW) are at present under examination in Central Electricity Authority. Adirapally Hydro-electric Project (2x80 MW) was found techno-economically in order by Central Electricity Authority in June 1989 subject to clearance of the project from Environment & Forest angle.

Preliminary works have already been